RECEIVED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ROSOF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINER

# BEFORE THE BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMI**BOARDSOF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS**OF THE STATE OF IOWA

			APR 2 2 2015
In the matter of:	)	BOEE Case No. 14-146	
CHRISTOPHER ERICKSON, (Folder # 356862)	)	STIPULATION AND FINAL ORDER	
Respondent.	)		

In accordance with the provisions of Iowa Code sections 17A.12(5) and 272.2(4) and 282 Iowa Administrative Code [IAC] 11.4(6), and with full knowledge of the right to demand a formal hearing before the Board upon the pending complaint prior to the imposition of sanction upon his license, the Respondent expressly waives the right to a disciplinary hearing and notifies the Board of his desire to resolve the pending complaint through means of informal disposition.

The Respondent concedes the jurisdiction of the Board for all issues relevant hereto and voluntarily consents to the State's counsel presenting this agreement to the Board with the terms provided. If the Board does not accept the terms of this agreement, the disciplinary hearing will be rescheduled and the stipulations contained herein are not binding upon the Respondent and will not be presented against his at the time of hearing without further agreement of the Respondent.

Board approval of this settlement shall constitute resolution of this matter and will be entered as a FINAL ORDER of the Board.

### STIPULATIONS

- 1. Respondent holds a PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATOR LICENSE (FOLDER # 356862) with the following endorsements: PK-8 Principal; 5–12 Principal; and Evaluator (New). Respondent's Professional Administrator License is current and will next expire on March 31, 2018. Respondent also holds a MASTER EDUCATOR LICENSE with the following endorsements: K-12 Athletic Coach; K-6 Teacher Elementary Classroom. Respondent's Master Educator License is current and will next expire on March 31, 2019. Respondent also holds a voided Evaluator (New) License and an expired Conditional License.
- 2. The Sioux City Community School District initially hired Respondent on August 23, 2004 to teach fifth grade at Riverside Elementary School. Subsequently, he became an Assistant Principal at East Middle School. He remained in that position until his resignation in April 2014.
- 3. On November 24, 2014, the Board of Educational Examiners received a complaint against Respondent alleging a violation of the Code of Ethics.

- 4. On February 13, 2015, the Board found probable cause to proceed to hearing based upon the facts set forth herein in Paragraph 6.
- 5. The Board charged Respondent with failing to comply with federal, state, and local laws applicable to the fulfillment of professional obligations, in violation of Board rule 282 IAC 25.3(6)(m).
- 6. Investigation revealed Respondent failed to complete paperwork required by 281 IAC 103 following an incident in which Respondent used force to remove a student from the lunchroom.

### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

- 7. This Combined Statement of Charges, Settlement Agreement, and Final Order constitutes the final resolution of a contested case proceeding and shall have the force and effect of a disciplinary order entered following a contested case hearing.
- 8. In order to resolve this matter without proceeding to hearing, Respondent agrees to the following conditions:
  - a. Respondent accepts a WRITTEN REPRIMAND.
  - b. Respondent agrees to successfully complete at least fifteen contact hours in "Ethics for Educators." This course is offered by the ISEA. Respondent is responsible for all costs associated with the completion of the educational course. Respondent shall provide the Board with proof of completion of the Ethics for Educators course within four (4) months of the Board's acceptance of this Agreement.

### LICENSEE DECLARATION

I understand that this settlement agreement is subject to the approval of the Board and will have no force or effect if it is not accepted by the Board.

I understand State's counsel will present this Agreement to the Board ex parte.

I agree to comply with the requirements set forth in the stipulations and understand that my failure to do so will result in the indefinite suspension of my teaching and administrative licenses.

I understand that this Combined Statement of Charges, Stipulation, and Order is a public record, which will become part of my permanent licensure file and will be available for public inspection and reproduction.

I understand that my name will be added to the national clearinghouse database kept by the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC).

 $\frac{4-22-15}{\text{Date}}$ 

Christopher Erickson, Respondent

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### ORDER

IT IS THE FINAL ORDER OF THE IOWA BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS THAT:

- 1. The conduct with which Respondent has been charged constitutes a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics governing the teaching profession. Respondent is REPRIMANDED for the charged conduct.
- 2. Respondent shall successfully complete at least fifteen contact hours in "Ethics for Educators." Respondent is responsible for all costs associated with the completion of the educational course. Respondent shall provide the Board with proof of completion of the Ethics for Educators course within four (4) months of the date of this Order.
- 3. In determining the appropriate sanction to impose in this case, the Board has considered the nature and seriousness of the allegations as well as mitigating circumstances.

Dated this 371 day of May

Duane T. Magee, Executive Director Iowa Board of Educational Examiners

Copies to:

Christopher Erickson RESPONDENT

James Carlin ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

Renner K. Walker ATTORNEY FOR THE STATE

## IOWA BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:

Chris Erickson,

Respondent.

Case No. 14-146

Order Amending Stipulation and Order with Consent of Parties

At its regular meeting on May 8, 2015, the Board reviewed and moved to accept the Stipulation and Order in the above-captioned case, with an amendment to require the respondent to submit proof of completion of the Ethics for Educators course within twelve (12) months of the date of the order.

## **ORDER**

**THEREFORE**, the Stipulation and Order in case number 14-146 is amended to require the respondent to submit proof of completion of the Ethics for Educators course within twelve (12) months of the date of the order.

Dated this 28th day of May, 2015.

Duane T. Magee, Executive Director

On behalf of the Board

Copies to:

Christopher Erickson RESPONDENT

James Carlin
ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

Renner K. Walker ATTORNEY FOR STATE

# BEFORE THE BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF IOWA

In the matter of	)	Case No. 14-146 License No. 356862
CHRISTOPHER ERICKSON,	)	00
	)	NOTICE OF HEARING
Respondent.	)	AND STATEMENT OF CHARGES

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners, exercising the jurisdiction conferred by Iowa Code chapters 17A and 272, has found probable cause of a violation of Board rules and ordered this matter scheduled for hearing.

# A. TIME, PLACE AND NATURE OF HEARING

- 1. Hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, before Administrative Law Judge LaMarche, acting on behalf of the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners. The hearing shall begin at 9:00 a.m. in Department of Inspections and Appeals, Wallace State Office Bldg, Third Floor, 502 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street (East 9th and Grand Avenue), Des Moines, Iowa. You should report to the third floor Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals' (DIA) receptionist prior to 9:00 a.m. to obtain the room assignment.
- 2. <u>Answer</u>. Within twenty (20) days of the date of service of this Notice of Hearing, you are required to file an Answer specifically admitting, denying, or otherwise responding to the allegations included within the Factual Allegations. In that Answer, you should also state whether you will require an adjustment of the date and time of the hearing. A copy of the Answer shall be provided by the Respondent to the Assistant Attorney General identified below.
- 3. <u>Hearing Procedures</u>. The procedural rules governing the conduct of the hearing are found at 282 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) chapter 11. At hearing, you may appear personally or be represented by an attorney, at your own expense. You will be allowed the opportunity to respond to the charges against you. Each party will be allowed to testify, examine and cross-examine witnesses, and present documentary evidence. If you fail to appear at the hearing, the Board may enter a default decision or proceed with the hearing and render a decision in your absence. If you need to request an alternative time or date for hearing, you must comply with the requirements of 282 IAC 11.19.

If either party wishes to present telephonic testimony or to participate in the hearing by telephone, arrangements must be made at least ten (10) days in advance of the hearing date by filing a written request with the presiding Administrative Law Judge, Department of Inspections and Appeals, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319, or by faxing a written request to (515) 281-4477. A copy of the request for telephonic testimony must be served on the Board and all parties. Any resistance to the request for telephone testimony must be filed within five (5) days of service of the notice.

- 4. <u>Pre-hearing conference</u>. Either party may request a pre-hearing conference to discuss evidentiary issues related to the hearing. The Board rules regarding pre-hearing conferences are found in 282 IAC 11.18.
- 5. <u>Prosecution</u>. The office of the Attorney General is responsible for prosecuting and representing the public interest (the State) in this proceeding. Pleadings shall be filed with the Board and copies should be provided to counsel for the State at the following address:

Renner K. Walker Assistant Attorney General Iowa Department of Justice 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hoover State Office Building 1305 E. Walnut St. Des Moines, Iowa 50319 Telephone (515) 281-7175

6. <u>Communications</u>. You may not contact Board members by phone, letter, facsimile, e-mail, or in person about this Notice of Hearing or the pending charges. Board members may only receive information about the case when all parties have notice and an opportunity to participate, such as at the hearing or in pleadings you file with the Board office and serve on all parties in the case. You should direct any questions about this proceeding to Duane T. Magee, the Board's Executive Director, at (515) 281-5849 or to Assistant Attorney General Walker at (515) 281-7175.

# B. SECTIONS OF STATUTES AND RULES INVOLVED

## Count I

7. Respondent is charged failing to comply with federal, state, and local laws applicable to the fulfillment of professional obligations, in violation of Board rule 282 IAC 25.3(6)(m).

## C. JURISDICTION AND LEGAL AUTHORITY

8. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 17A and 272. If any of the allegations against you are proven at hearing, the Board has authority to take disciplinary action against you under Iowa Code chapters 17A and 272, and 282 IAC chapter 11.

## D. FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

9. Respondent holds a PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATOR LICENSE (FOLDER # 356862) with the following endorsements: PK-8 Principal; 5-12 Principal; and Evaluator (New). Respondent's Professional Administrator License is current and will next expire on March 31, 2018. Respondent also holds a MASTER EDUCATOR LICENSE with the following endorsements: K-12 Athletic Coach; K-6 Teacher

Elementary Classroom. Respondent's Master Educator License is current and will next expire on March 31, 2019. Respondent also holds a voided Evaluator (New) License and an expired Conditional License.

- 10. The Sioux City Community School District initially hired Respondent on August 23, 2004 to teach fifth grade at Riverside Elementary School. Subsequently, he became an Assistant Principal at East Middle School. He remained in that position until his resignation in April 2014.
- 11. On November 24, 2014, the Board of Educational Examiners received a complaint against Respondent alleging a violation of the Code of Ethics. On February 13, 2015, the Board found probable cause to proceed to hearing based upon the facts set forth herein and delineated in further detail within the complaint and investigation file compiled by the Board.
- 12. Investigation revealed Respondent failed to complete paperwork required by 281 IAC 103 following an incident in which Respondent used force to remove a student from the lunchroom.

### E. SETTLEMENT

13. This matter may be resolved by surrender of your license or an agreement to accept a lesser sanction. The procedural rules governing the Board's settlement process are found at 282 IAC 11.4(6). If you are interested in pursuing settlement of this matter, please contact the Assistant Attorney General identified in Section A, above.

Dated this 16thday of March, 2015.

Duane T. Magee, Executive Director Iowa Board of Educational Examiners

Copies to:

Christopher Erickson RESPONDENT

James Carlin ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

Renner K. Walker ATTORNEY FOR STATE